

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

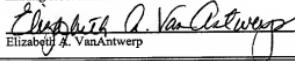
In re the application of: Ken-ichi-NODA and Tatsuo KAWAGUCHI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: A METHOD FOR PRODUCING BONDED ARTICLES, BONDED  
ARTICLES AND BONDING AGENTS

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Box Patent Application, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202 on December 6, 2001 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL650149195US.

  
Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

**Please rewrite claim 3 as follows:**

3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein said water-soluble compound is a composite hydroxide containing said alkali metal element.

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**REMARKS**

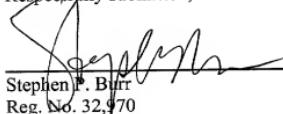
Claims 1-24 are pending herein. Applicants have amended claim 3 to eliminate multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe the case is now in condition for examination.

Attached hereto as page 3 is a marked-up version of the changes made to claim 3 by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

If the Examiner believes that contact with applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, he is herein requested to call applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen L. Burr  
Reg. No. 32,470

December 6, 2001  
Date

SPB/eav

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

**Claim 3 has been amended as follows:**

3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1-~~or~~-2, wherein said water-soluble compound is a composite hydroxide containing said alkali metal element. ✓

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